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# FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION      UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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FAO COMMITTEES AT WORK. . . . The two committees appointed by the FAO Preparatory Commission on Nov. 1 to consider means for achieving the objectives agreed upon at the Copenhagen conference are working together this week in closed sessions.

Committee I--Development and Food Programs--is dealing "with the problems arising out of the development and coordination of national nutrition and agricultural programs and with the international machinery which might be required to give assistance in connection therewith."

Committee II--Price Stabilization and Commodity Policy--is considering "the problems of the stabilization of agricultural prices at levels fair to producers and consumers alike, of the acquirement, utilization, and disposal of surpluses and the use of international agreements, and any other international machinery or action appropriate for these purposes."

Beginning Nov. 4 experts from six countries and agricultural statisticians of FAO are taking preliminary steps on a 1950 world census of agriculture in an informal conference at Washington FAO headquarters. The conference was called together by H. R. Tolley, Director of the Economics and Statistics Division of FAO, in accordance with plans made at the FAO Copenhagen conference. This group will work out suggested tables and schedules of agricultural census information to be submitted to the world governments. The aim is to coordinate the agricultural census work of the various nations rather than for FAO to conduct a world census. Therefore, FAO will work with governments to get needed uniform information on pertinent facts and data.

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POTATOES IN THE SPOTLIGHT. . . . From Nov. 7-16, special effort will be made to boost consumption of potatoes and to get housewives to buy some for home storage. The trade, Agriculture, and all interested groups are cooperating in this special drive. If you can use more copies of the potato fact sheet recently distributed to stimulate best use of the all-time record potato crop, Office of Information can supply you. So far as the Department is concerned, potatoes are likely to remain an A-1 plug for information workers for several months.

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SECRETARY ANDERSON'S ADDRESS before the National Grange at Portland, Oregon, Nov. 15, will be broadcast over NBC from 3:15 p.m. to 3:40 p.m., Pacific Standard Time (6:15 to 6:40 p.m. EST).

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OTHER DATES OF INTEREST. . . . Conference of radio farm directors December 1 at Chicago--Stevens Hotel, and meeting of farm paper editors December 3 at Chicago--Harrison Hotel.

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WHY SUGAR IS SHORT. . . . Americans would like to have about 100 pounds of sugar annually per person, but we are only getting about 72 pounds each. There'll be more for us by April 1947, but unlimited supplies will not be available for many months. PMA recently summarized the main reasons for the scarcity of sugar briefly as follows:

1. Present continental U. S. sugar production is about 30 percent of the 1946 estimated distribution.
2. Because of war damage, we won't be getting much sugar from the Philippines before 1948--the U. S. formerly imported about 1 million tons annually from the Philippines.
3. Java will probably not produce again for export before 1948--before Jap occupation of Java it exported about 1,250,000 tons of sugar to countries friendly to the U. S.
4. The important prewar beet sugar industry in European countries was badly injured during the war--it is making a steady but gradual comeback.
5. It is impracticable to increase substantially the cane sugar production in La., Fla., Puerto Rico, Hawaii, or the Virgin Islands.
6. Cuba--and to a lesser extent other Caribbean areas--has become the "world sugar bowl." Although its sugar production has increased substantially, Cuba cannot offset losses suffered in all other parts of the world.
7. Americans would have a little bit more sugar if we had refused to share any supplies with our allies or had refused to extend a minimum of aid to liberated areas.

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BATTLING BRUCELLOSIS, 2 reels, 16 mm., sound, color, running time, 20 minutes.

This recently completed USDA film tells the story of a typical livestock owner's battle against the deadly germ of bovine brucellosis, or Bang's disease. As the story unfolds, the observer sees not only what stockmen and veterinarians can do on farms to curb the ravages of the disease but also how scientists conduct the diagnostic blood test and perform other technical services in laboratories. Animated diagrams portray the physiology of the disease and the route by which the germs of brucellosis commonly attack their victims. Prints of this movie may be obtained from the Department's cooperating film libraries.

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RECENT USDA PUBLICATIONS. . . . Silverfish, Leaflet No. 149, 4 p.; Sweetpotato

Recipes, AIS-58, 12p.--also 6 descriptive Picture Sheets; in color, prepared by BE&PQ--No. 15, the Boll Weevil; No. 16, the Bollworm; No. 17, the Cotton Aphid; No. 18, the Cotton Flea Hopper; No. 19, the Cotton Leafworm; No. 20, the Red Spider. These sheets give the life history of the insects and ways to control them.

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PLENTIFUL FOODS FOR DECEMBER. . . . The principal foods which will be generally plentiful during December are: potatoes, onions, apples, pears, dried peaches, canned citrus juices, and fresh and frozen fish (excluding shell fish). The supply of filberts, almonds, and cranberries also is considered adequate.

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4-H ACHIEVEMENTS IN 1946. . . . This has been another outstanding year in 4-H Club work and there is much to tell during National 4-H Achievement Week, Nov. 2-10. The more than a million and a half 4-H members put their zeal and energy behind the famine campaign with significant results. The food they produced and conserved was no small contribution to the 1946 world food supply as the following figures testify:

Victory garden products.....	150,000	acres
Poultry products.....	11,000,000	birds
Livestock.....	750,000	head
Food crops.....	350,000	acres
Food prepared or served.....	20,000,000	meals
Products canned.....	33,000,000	quarts
Food brined.....	250,000	gallons
Food dried or cured.....	3,000,000	pounds
Food stored or frozen.....	10,000,000	pounds

The 4-H boys and girls also stressed improving their own and their community's health, "subbed" at home for their brothers and sisters in the armed forces and trained city boys and girls to help them with the farm work. They also helped interpret the Nation's peace-building program and learned more about being good citizens of a democracy.

4-H members hope to increase their number to 3,200,000 by 1950. Telling others about the individual and national accomplishments of 4-H'ers will help them reach this goal.

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THE CROP THAT NEVER FAILS, one reel, 16 mm., black and white, running time 8 minutes--this is a new USDA movie, prints of which have just been released to the Department's film depositories. It illustrates briefly the principal agricultural events since World War I and suggests that the American farmer draw a lesson from the past to insure security for himself and his family. With past events as a reminder the farmer is urged to buy wisely and only what he really needs to maintain his business in sound operating condition. The movie stresses the importance of a strong financial reserve for the farmer as well as keeping land, buildings, equipment, and livestock in the best possible condition. The story closes with a typical farm family looking at the future with confidence and the feeling of security.

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RADIO SCHEDULE, NOVEMBER 15. . . . NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR, NBC, 1:00-1:30 p.m., EST, "Department of Agriculture Headlines."

AMERICAN FARMER, ABC, 12:30-1:00 p.m., EST,

"The Business Side of Farming," weekly USDA tips for farmers.

CONSUMER TIME, NBC, 12:15-12:30 p.m., EST,

"Make Over Magic," how to make old leather, fur, and felt articles into attractive serviceable clothes. Special guest will be Clarice Scott, clothing specialist of USDA, who will offer special tips on the subject.

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WORLD FOOD PROSPECTS, 1946-47. . . . Although world food production is expected to be about 7 percent larger in 1946-47 than in the previous year, export food supplies must be used carefully if acute shortages is to be avoided again next spring. Food stocks are generally low, purchasing power is high in some countries, and some countries will be able to increase their food rations.

The most pronounced increases in the current year's crops are noted in areas that were laid waste by war and those stricken by drought last year, OFAR reports from a recent survey of world food prospects. Southern and western Europe and N. Africa have made the greatest increases in food production during the current year as compared with 1945-46. Crop prospects are also better than a year ago in many Far Eastern countries. Unfavorable weather has dimmed prospects in the United Kingdom, Eire, Rumania, Siam, Korea, and Manchuria.

In relation to prewar years the United States and Canada made the greatest contribution to world food production as they maintained their high level of wartime production. Europe, excluding the Soviet Union, is expected to produce about 90 percent as much food in 1946-47 as before the war compared with 80 percent last year. Further recovery in food production is indicated in the Soviet Union, but the output still is below prewar. For further details of the OFAR summary of world food prospects, see press release 2399.

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SOME USDA PRESS RELEASES. . . . Each of the four USDA Regional Research Laboratories is working to develop or improve a synthetic fiber from a different agricultural product (from Nov. 3 Clipsheet)--2279;  
Cuban black strap molasses to be sold for range livestock feeding--2387;  
The Livestock and Wool Situation--2394;  
The Fats and Oils Situation--2403;  
World cotton production much below average in 1946-47--2401;  
USDA reduces export procurement program and will cease making contracts for foods (except wheat) for cash-paying governments eff. 12/31/46--2402;  
USDA calls hearing on entry of Hawaiian plant materials at Washington, Dec. 6--2412;  
Hearing called to discuss regulation of cut flower imports at USDA, Washington, Dec. 5--2388;  
The Demand and Price Situation--2416;  
Potatoes for export--USDA wants to export government-owned potatoes where feasible--2421;  
IEFC urges careful husbanding of food--2429;  
Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands sugar programs for 1947 provide initial base prices of about 5.285 cents per pound--2436;

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OTHER RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE. . . . WAA donates USDA 1,200 cook books which will be distributed to schools operating hot lunch programs--WAA-740;  
OES authorizes USDA price support program designed to secure maximum domestic beet sugar production in 1947 crop year--OES Directive 138;  
OES authorizes USDA to revise its 1946 sugar price support programs for Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands to accord these producers parity of treatment with Cuba--OES Directive 143.

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